

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 262743
ORIGIN SS-15

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

66011
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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 262743

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT AMMAN 7878 ACTION SECSTATE 26 OCT 77

QUOTE

S E C R E T AMMAN 7878

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FROM PICKERING

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: MASS, JO, LY/ XF
SUBJECT: COURT CHIEF SHARAF--THE LIBYAN CONNECTION

REF AMMAN 7674 AND PREVIOUS

1. IN A MEETING DEVOTED MAINLY TO OTHER QUESTIONS,
I RAISED AT THE END WHETHER GENERAL BIN SHAKER HAD
BRIEFED SHARAF ON MY APPROACH TO HIM ON LIBYA.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 262743

HE SAID THAT HE HAD BEEN SO BRIEFED AND THAT HE
THOUGHT JORDAN VERY MUCH SHOULD TAKE U.S. VIEWS
INTO ACCOUNT ON THIS POINT. HE ADDED THAT
NEVERTHELESS THERE WAS SOME POSITIVE ADVANTAGE
TO JORDAN'S BEING INVOLVED IN LIEU OF OTHERS SUCH
AS THE SOVIET UNION OR CUBA.

2. I DEMURRED, POINTING OUT LIBYAN TERRORIST CONNECTIONS, SAUDI AND EGYPTIAN ATTITUDES, AND U.S CONGRESSIONAL REACTION AS THREE SALIENT REASONS WHY IT WAS A BAD IDEA.

3. I ASKED SHARAF'S VIEWS ON WHETHER I SHOULD TALK TO KING HUSSEIN ABOUT IT. HE SAID VERY DEFINITELY THAT I SHOULD.

4. I EXPECT TO BE SEEING THE KING EITHER IN THE NEXT FEW DAYS OR OVER THE WEEKEND. IF YOU HAVE ANY FURTHER THOUGHTS TO ADD, PLEASE LET ME KNOW. THERE ARE SENSITIVE AND PERHAPS TENUOUS INDICATIONS THAT EGYPT WANTS TO RELAX THINGS A BIT WITH QADDHAFI. DOES THIS AFFECT IN ANY WAY YOUR PREVIOUSLY PREDICTED VIEWS ABOUT EGYPTIAN SENSITIVITIES TO A JORDANIAN TRAINING ACTIVITY IN LIBYA? WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT JORDANIANS NOW GOING AHEAD WITH FIVE-MAN REVIEW MISSION HEADED BY COLONEL SALIM TURK, HEAD OF ROYAL MILITARY ACADEMY. TURK IS A SOLID, SENSIBLE OFFICER WHO SHOULD TURN IN A WORKMAN-LIKE REPORT ON THIS PHASE OF JORDANIAN RESEARCH INTO WHAT THE LIBYANS NEED. PICKERING. UNQUOTE VANCE".

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PAGE 03 STATE 262743

SECRET

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Message Attributes

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